



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

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Wisconsin has three Presidential Scholars

MADISON—Three Wisconsin students are among 139 who were named 2008 Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school seniors.

"This award reflects the diligence and seriousness our scholars showed for their academic studies as well as their leadership and accomplishment in school and community activities," said State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster. "These students represent the thousands of outstanding seniors who will be graduating from Wisconsin high schools in the coming weeks."

Presidential Scholars from Wisconsin are **Kacey R. Hauk** of River Falls, St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists, St. Paul, Minn., Presidential Scholar in the Arts; **Travis J. Serebin**, Germantown High School; and **Angela M. Zeng** of Menomonee Falls, Hamilton High School, Sussex. The three, along with teachers they named in their applications as their most inspiring and challenging, will travel to Washington, D.C., June 21-24 for National Recognition Week. The highlight of the week, which includes meetings with government officials, educators, authors, musicians, scientists, and other dignitaries, will be the presentation of the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony sponsored by the White House.

Students chosen as Presidential Scholars were among 3,000 candidates who qualified based on ACT or SAT college admissions tests or nomination through the nationwide youngARTS competition, conducted annually by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. The Presidential Scholars Commission selected this year's scholars from a pool of about 500 semifinalists, choosing one male and one female from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and from families of U.S. citizens living abroad. In addition, 15 students were chosen at large; and 20 were chosen as Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

The Presidential Scholars program was established in 1964 to honor academic achievement. In 1997, the program expanded to include students with exceptional talent in the visual, literary, and performing arts. More than 5,000 students have received Presidential Scholars honors since the program began.

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